

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14794 181919Z

71

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

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USIAC

E.O. 11652

SUBJ: NOUVELLE AGENCE DE PRESSE

REF: TANANARIVE 0815 C

1. NOUVELLE AGENCE DE PRESSE (NAP) OWNERS OF RECORD ARE FRANPAR (HACHETTE, FRANCE SOIR), AND SNEI (SOCIETE NOUVELLE D'EDITIONS INDUSTRIELLES), A SUBSIDIARY OF SNEP (SOCIETE NATIONALE D'ENTREPRISES DE PRESSE). THESE TWO GROUPS OWN UP TO 49 PER CENT OF SEVERAL FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN NEWSPAPERS, INCLUDING QTE FRATERNITE-MATIN ENDQTE (ABIDJAN) AND QTE LE SOLEIL ENDQTE (DAKAR). A 1964 CLIPPING STATES NAP WAS FOUNDED QTE POUR SERVIR. . JOURNAUX FONDES PAR LA SNEI EN AFRIQUE FRANCOPHONE DANS LE CADRE DE LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE FRANCO-AFRICAINE.ENDQTE.

2. MOST NAP STAFFERS ARE FRENCH, USUALLY OLD AFRICA HANDS. OUTPUT REFLECTS THEIR BIASES, AND THEIR READING OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT POLICY. LONE AFRICAN, A DAHOMEYAN, EDITS FRENCH BULLETIN. THERE ARE ALSO ENGLISH AND ARABIC BULLETINS. DAHOMEYAN RECENTLY VISITED US ON LEADER GRANT, BUT DID NOT RPT NOT GAIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 PARIS 14794 181919Z

USEFUL INSIGHTS ON US POLICY.

3. FAST NEWS INPUT TO NAP COMES FROM AFP CORRESPONDENTS IN AFRICA, AND WORLDWIDE.

4. NAP SERVICE IS APPARENTLY PROVIDED FREE TO SUBSCRIBERS. IT THUS APPEARS TO HAVE NO RPT NO INCOME, AND TO BE ENTIRELY SUBSIDIZED BY ITS OWNERS. IT ACTIVELY SEEKS SUBSCRIBERS UNCONNECTED RPT UNCONNECTED TO OWNERS, AND HAS RECENTLY BEEN PROSPECTING THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS.

5. UNDER A PROPOSED REORGANIZATION PLAN, EACH SUBSCRIBER COULD BUY AN INTEREST IN NAP. PLAN INCLUDED AFRICANIZATION OF STAFF. PLAN NOT RPT NOT YET PUT INTO EFFECT, AND MAY NOT RPT NOT BE. SINCE OWNERS OF RECORD OF NAP ARE MINORITY STOCKHOLDERS OF MAJOR SUBSCRIBERS, SIGNIFICANCE OF REORGANIZATION PLAN IS UNCLEAR RPT UNCLEAR.

6. ARS/PARIS IS IN REGULAR CONTACT WITH EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND SOME STAFFERS. ITEMS OF INTEREST ARE SUPPLIED, AND SOME USED.

7. PLEASE SEND COPIES OF CRITICAL ITEMS. CHANCES OF CHANGE ARE SMALL, BUT WE CAN TRY.
ANDERSON

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